

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-6 are now in the application. Claims 2, 4, and 5 have been amended. Dependent claim 6 has been added.

Claims 2, 4, and 5 have been amended to be consistent with the instant specification and new dependent claim 6 contains features previously recited in independent claim 5.

Support for the changes to the claims can be found on page 3, line 5 to page 4, line 16 and page 7, lines 9-19 of the instant specification, and in the original claims of the instant application.

In item 5 on page 2 of the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the instant drawings and pointed out several minor informalities.

In Figs. 1-4 inclusive, the number boxes have been labeled consistent with their description in the instant specification, as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing changes to the drawings, the Examiner's objection is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the objection to the drawings.

In item 6 on page 3 of the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification because of several informalities. The Examiner's suggested corrections have been made together with other minor corrections in the identified paragraph.

In view of the foregoing corrections to the instant specification, the Examiner's objection is believed to have been overcome. Therefore, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the objection to the specification.

In item 10 on page 4 of the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 2 and 4 because of several informalities. Claims 2 and 4 have been amended as noted above to overcome the Examiner's objections.

In view of the foregoing changes to the claims, the Examiner's objections are believed to have been overcome. Therefore, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the objection to the claims.

In item 12 on page 5 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1 and 5 have been rejected as being anticipated by Newton et al. (U.S. 5,771,291) (hereinafter "Newton") under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

As will be explained below, it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and, therefore, the claims have only been amended to address the informalities, but have not been amended overcome the references.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful. Claim 1 calls for, *inter alia*, a method of authenticating for a multiplicity of services each being callable via a defined access authorization, by:

providing an authentication server and storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service;

storing a multiplicity of authentication codes assigned to users in the authentication server;

assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user; and

upon receiving a request for a given service, carrying out authentication with the authentication server by comparing a received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server and, if the comparison leads to a positive comparison result, causing with the authentication server a connection to the requested service to be set up. (emphasis added)

Newton discloses a method and system that provides secure remote access to a host computer (see Fig.1, column 1, lines 66-67, and column 2, lines 1-6). This is accomplished by using ultra long access keys stored in the data base of the server which are checked against the individual access key received from the user's computer. If there is a successful authentication, access is granted and the session begins.

In contrast to Newton, the present invention provides a method and an apparatus for authentication for a multiplicity of services each being callable via a defined access authorization and a method for universal authentication in an

intelligent network for a multiplicity of IN services, each callable via a defined access authorization. In this way a user needs only to remember the authentication code for the authentication server and not the different authorizations for the multiplicity of services (for example, see p. 2, lines 22-25 and p. 3, lines 1-2 of the instant specification).

According to independent claims 1, 3, and 5, as a result of a successful authentication based on the assigned authentication code, the access authorization for the requested service is used in order to set up a connection to this service. Thus, the user does not need to enter the authorization for the specific service, since it is read from the memory of the authentication server.

According to claim 1 of the present application, the method of authenticating for a multiplicity of services, each being callable via a defined access authorization, there is provided an authentication server and storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service. On the contrary, the server disclosed in Newton only stores identification keys used for controlling secure remote computer terminal access to the host computer. Apart from those identification keys used for access to the remote computer, no further access authorizations for services are

stored. This means that storing access authorizations for services in the authentication server in addition to the multiplicity of authentication codes assigned to users is not disclosed by Newton. This is also true of the claimed step of "assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user." A corresponding assignment step is completely missing in the method disclosed by Newton.

Furthermore, as a result of the claimed comparison between the received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server, a connection to the requested service is established. This is done using the access authorization for the requested service. In contrast to this, in Newton a successful authentication will result in access to the server being granted and the beginning of the session. Thus, in Newton's disclosed method the authentication to the server is the final step which allows the user to execute a server transaction program located on the server itself. In contrast to this, in the present invention the authentication to the authentication server represents only an intermediate step. As soon as the connection between the subscriber terminal of the user and the authentication server exists, the authentication server

establishes a connection to the requested service as recited in the claims.

Because of these differences discussed above, independent claim 1 is both novel and non-obvious over Newton.

Independent claim 3 contains similar difference over Newton.

Independent claim 5 is novel over and different from Newton for the same reasons discussed above relative to claim 1.

Thus, according to the present claimed invention the authentication server is connected to a multiplicity of services, this is not the case for the server disclosed in Newton. Furthermore, according to claim 5 the authentication server includes "a memory storing at least one defined access authorization for a service." This limitation is not true of the server disclosed in Newton. And finally, the claimed authentication server includes "a connection set up device for setting up a connection to a requested service" which is not shown or suggested in Newton.

Therefore, it is submitted that the limitations of claim 5 are not shown or suggested by Newton.

Clearly, Newton does not show "providing an authentication server and storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service; storing a multiplicity of authentication codes assigned to users in the authentication server; assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user; and upon receiving a request for a given service, carrying out authentication with the authentication server by comparing a received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server and, if the comparison leads to a positive comparison result, causing with the authentication server a connection to the requested service to be set up" as recited in claim 1 of the instant application. Independent claim 3 contains similar limitations.

In item 14 on page 8 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 2-4 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Newton in view of Lin et al. (U.S. 5,999,610) (hereinafter "Lin") under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The foregoing discussion of Newton is equally applicable in this rejection.

Lin discloses a method for managing communications between a service origination node and a plurality of serving nodes where the serving nodes are simultaneously active for a particular trigger to thereby generate a reply to the service origination node (see col. 3, lines 66-67 and col. 4, lines 1-15). Lin does not relate to or disclose a method for authenticating a multiplicity of services. Therefore, the subject matter of Lin is distinctly different from the claimed subject of "authenticating...a multiplicity of services each being callable via a defined access authorization." Moreover, the Examiner has stated that Lin discloses an intelligent network. However, Lin does not disclose or suggest a method for authenticating for a multiplicity of services as claimed. Lin does not show the claimed limitations and does not overcome the deficiencies of Newton.

As for independent claim 3, the same arguments stated above relative to Newton apply equally here. Thus, claim 3 recites a method for authenticating for a multiplicity of services each being callable via a defined access authorization by providing an authentication server and storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service. Furthermore, the claimed method includes assigning each authorization code to the access authorization or

authorizations of a user. Claim 3 also recites that if the comparison of the received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server leads to a positive comparison result, a connection to the requested service is set up. None of those three claimed limitations is disclosed or suggested by Newton. Furthermore, a person skilled in the art would not even get any suggestion from Newton to modify the server described in Newton by adding the missing claimed features in order to arrive at the claimed method.

As discussed above, the secondary Lin reference discloses non-analogous subject matter relative to the claimed method for authenticating for a multiplicity of services.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that even if one would combine Newton and Lin, the resulting method would not meet the limitations of claim 3. The steps of storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service, assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user, and in case of a successful authentication setting up a connection to the requested service, are neither disclosed nor suggested by Newton nor Lin.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 1, 3, or 5. Claims 1, 3, and 5 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1, 3, or 5.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 are solicited.

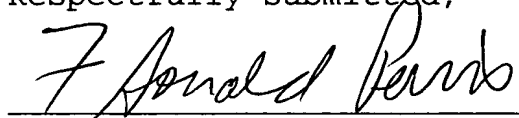
In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$110.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

Appl. No. 09/621,432
Amdt. dated 10/28/04
Reply to Office action of 7/6/04

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to
Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and
Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Donald Paris", is written over a horizontal line.

F. Donald Paris (Reg. 24,054)

FDP/bb

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